

HONORING POLICE CHIEF DAN  
MCCOLLUM

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**  
OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, September 25, 2012*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Police Chief Dan McCollum, who will celebrate his 40th year in law enforcement on September 25, 2012. To show their appreciation for his service, the Village of La Grange Park will host a reception in his honor.

Throughout his 40 years in law enforcement, including 16 years as Police Chief in La Grange Park, Chief McCollum has served residents around Illinois and in Corvallis, Oregon. In his work to protect his community he has gained a reputation as a professional and honest public servant, consistently demonstrating his strong character. For example, in 1979 when he was a young police chief, his squad car broke down on a rural road in central Illinois during a blizzard. Surrounded by the severe, rapidly approaching storm, he chose not to wait for a passing car, but sought shelter at the nearest house. Although he had made previous arrests at this residence prior to the storm, Chief McCollum took his chances. The storm was so severe, that he would end up staying with the residents for two days until the storm had finally passed. It is this ability to develop relationships even in the face of adversity that sets him apart, and allowed him to earn his position as the youngest police chief in the state at age 24 in Villa Grove, Illinois, and eventually his current post as chief in La Grange Park.

Chief McCollum now serves the 13,000 residents of the Village of La Grange Park, just as he has since 1996. He and the rest of the Police Department are committed to maintaining peace in La Grange Park by safeguarding the community and forming bonds of trust with those they protect. Chief McCollum believes that to be an officer in LaGrange Park, one must be oriented toward public service and should be a problem-solver in the community. His leadership drives this police force and is an important reason why the residents of La Grange Park have so much respect for their police.

As the La Grange Park Police Chief, Dan McCollum has been recognized on several occasions for his dedication to past and present police officers and public safety. Chief McCollum was appointed President for the Illinois Association of Law Enforcement Executives and has since served in this position for the past three years. Working within this non-profit organization, he has helped to provide more opportunities for professional training and advancement of current and retired law enforcement members. He has also received the 2008 Governor's Lifetime Achievement Award from the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board in Springfield.

Away from the stress of the police station, Chief McCollum has also led a fulfilling personal life. He is a former rock and roll musician, an avid fisherman, and an exceptional cook. Dan's wife, Nancy, and his three children, Sarah, Matthew, and Patrick, will be very proud to see him honored for his longtime service.

Please join me in honoring Police Chief Dan McCollum for his dedicated service to the La

Grange Park community on the occasion of his 40th year of service. May he continue to be a stalwart public servant in La Grange Park for years to come.

## STEM JOBS ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, September 20, 2012*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 6429, the STEM Jobs Act.

Our Nation should be first in the world in science, technology, engineering and math. I'm pleased that we are in agreement on the urgency of this goal. However, this legislation has two big problems which are highly detrimental to our mutual goal.

The first problem is that this legislation takes unnecessary, unfair steps to reduce legal immigration, such as cutting the Diversity Program. The Diversity Program is one of the few existing pathways for African applicants to enter our Nation legally. Cutting this program will not enhance our Nation's STEM competitiveness.

The second problem is that this legislation allows American employers to pay inferior wages to foreign STEM graduates—forcing American workers to compete on an unlevel playing field.

We can do better than the STEM Jobs Act. Representative LOFGREN's legislation, the Attracting the Best and Brightest Act, ensures that students who earn advanced STEM degrees in America stay in America and contribute to our Nation's prosperity. It creates a new visa category for applicants with advanced STEM degrees, and importantly, takes steps to protect the wages of Americans—a consideration which absolutely must be taken into account.

The Attracting the Best and Brightest Act does not contain the harmful immigration provisions of the STEM Jobs Act. Rather, it represents a commonsense solution to a very real problem.

I am pleased that Republicans, Democrats, and the Administration all agree we should do more to ensure that our Nation benefits from the talents, skills, and ideas of our advanced STEM graduates. However, the STEM Jobs Act legislation takes the wrong approach, and I regrettably urge my colleagues to oppose it.

## NATIONAL WORK AND FAMILY MONTH

**HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, September 25, 2012*

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the month of October 2012 as National Work and Family Month. At this time each year, National Work and Family Month reminds us of the many ways that strong work-family policies continue to create and maintain healthier and more flexible work environments.

These programs and practices—from workplace flexibility such as flextime and telecom-

muting, to sick and family leave, dependent and day care resources, and even stress management and community involvement initiatives—are highly effective in attracting a loyal and talented workforce. Yet there is always room for improvement. As more of America's organizations incorporate work-family policies such as those mentioned above, the greater the competitive edge we will have in the recruitment and retention of our loyal and talented workforce.

Since a bipartisan resolution established National Work and Family Month in October 2003, Congress has consistently acknowledged the importance of good family-work policies and celebrated the progress made in expanding the availability and use of workplace flexibility. This October, I seek again to raise awareness of National Work and Family Month and encourage my colleagues to also acknowledge the overwhelmingly positive effect of a healthy balance between work and family life on workforce engagement, motivation and satisfaction.

## CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY, CITY OF MULLENS, WEST VIRGINIA

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, September 25, 2012*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to share with our colleagues a very significant anniversary being celebrated this year by the good people of Mullens, West Virginia. It was 100 years ago that the City of Mullens was incorporated. Throughout the year, families and local businesses have been celebrating this centennial milestone achievement.

Known as the Dogwood City, the city's Annual Dogwood Festival draws families and friends from all over to share in nature's beauty with the blooming of so many dogwood trees throughout the area. The refreshing little spring blooms bring forth new hope and the promise of a new season. This is a message well received in this town that has truly known boom times as well as some bad times.

Like the strong dense wood of the little dogwood tree, the people of this American small town are resilient and find strength in tradition and the deep roots their families have established in this home among Appalachia's majestic mountains. And like the finely grained wood of the dogwood, when it is finished and polished, the beauty ingrained in these good neighbors shines through to all who are touched by their many kindnesses. For anyone who happens by their fair city will find hospitality, friendliness and lending a helping hand are the rule not the exception.

The roots of Mullens' contributions though extend well beyond its city limits. The citizens of Mullens are rightfully proud of their heritage as a rail and coal center to help fuel this Nation's energy needs. Hard work, determination and a boundless optimism that one's children will have a brighter future are the core values of the families that daily recognize the many blessings flowing from the benevolent hand of the Almighty.

As Mullens continues its centennial celebration this year, I am honored to be invited to participate in Mullens Centennial Parade this Saturday. It is a fine example of how successful this community is in bringing townspeople